

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 00351 131924Z  
ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00  
COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
SAJ-01 /105 W  
-----132024Z 033218 /42

R 131715Z JAN 77  
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AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, PL  
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SUBJECT: WCL AND WFTU SECRETARIATS TO CONFER

1. MEMBERS OF THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (WCL)  
SECRETARIATS ARE PLANNING TO MEET IN PRAGUE FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS  
SOMETIME THIS YEAR WITH OFFICIALS OF THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED  
WORLD FEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (WFTU). THE TWO  
SIDES HAVE NOT YET AGREED ON A MEETING DATE.

2. JAN KULAKOWSKI WCL GENERAL SECRETARY, PROVIDED THIS INFORMATION JAN 12 IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY AT A BRIEFING IN HIS OFFICE ATTENDED BY THREE BRUSSELS-BASED LABOR ATTACHES (BRITISH, CANADIAN AND U.S.). UNDER FURTHER QUESTIONING, HE SAID THAT THE MEETING WAS ONE OF PERIODIC CONTACTS (LAST IN BRUSSELS IN 1975) FOR "EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION" BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS. "WE ARE CONTINUING AS BEFORE, NEITHER STOPPING OUR CONTACTS NOR IMPROVING THEM," HE SAID.

3. ASKED WHETHER DISCUSSIONS MIGHT INCLUDE THE ARREST OF POLISH TRADE UNIONISTS, HE SAID, "" I SUPPOSE THAT SOMETHING WILL COME UP ON THAT." THE WCL'S SEMI-MONTHLY PRESS COMMUNIQUE", "FLASH" HAD IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER CARRIED BRIEF NEWS ITEMS ON THE POLISH SITUATION, REPORTS THAT KULAKOWSKI THOUGHT THE WFTU OFFICIALS MIGHT TRY TO REBUT. HE IMPLIED THAT THE NEXT ISSUE OF "FLASH" WOULD CONTAIN CRITICAL WORDS ABOUT THE POLISH DEVELOPMENTS.

4. HOWEVER, THE JANUARY 15 "FLASH", WHICH WE LATER OBTAINED FROM THE WCL PRESS OFFICE, CONTAINS ITS USUAL STRONG TALK ABOUT VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN COUNTRIES LIKE ARGENTINA AND PORTUGAL, BUT DEALS WITH POLAND GENTLY. AFTER NOTING THAT "TENSION HAS BY NO MEANS BEEN EASED" IN POLAND AS A RESULT OF THE JUNE STRIKES, THE BRIEF ARTICLE STATES:

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5. "MANY MEMBERS OF THE 'WORKERS' DEFENSE COMMITTEE' HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO DISTRESS BY THE POLISH AUTHORITIES. BUT THAT DID NOT STOP THE COMMITTEE FROM CONTESTING THE DECLARATIONS MADE BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. FURTHERMORE, 172 POLISH INTELLECTUALS HAVE REQUESTED THE SETTING UP OF A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

6. "IT MUST BE ASKED IF THE TREATS MADE BY THE AUTHORITIES TO THE CATHOLIC INTELLECTUALS CLUB OF VARSOVIE, AND TO THE MAGAZINE 'WIEZ', DO NOT GO HAND IN HAND WITH THE SAME COMPAGN. THE WCL HOPES THAT MATTERS WILL BE MADE CLEAR, AND AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE."

7. OTHER WCL NEWS, CULLED FROM THE KULAKOWSKI BRIEFING AND THE LATEST "FLASH":

(A) WCL CONGRESS: THE WCL'S 19TH CONGRESS, TO BE

HELD IN BELGIUM OCT. 17-22, WILL HAVE TWO THEMES: "RENOVATION OF WORLD TRADE UNIONISM" AND "THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND THE MULTINATIONALS." THE NEXT WCL CONFEDERAL BOARD MEETING, TO BE HELD APRIL 25-29 IN BELGIM (CITY NOT YET SELECTED), WILL DEAL WITH FURTHER ASPECTS OF THE CONGRESS.

(B) KULAKOWSKI'S TRAVELS. IN FEBRUARY KULAKOWSKI WILL TAKE A TRIP THROUGH AFRICA, THE ONLY CONTINENT HE HAS NOT VISITED SINCE BECOMING WCL GENERAL SECRETARY EARLY LAST YEAR. IN HIS REVIEW OF THE TRADE UNION SITUATION IN ASIA, AS GARNERED FROM A THREE-WEEK VISIT THERE IN DECEMBER, HIS MOST SIGNIFICANT POINT WAS THIS: THAT THE ALL-INDONESIAN LABOR FEDERATION (FBSI) WAS "NOT TO BE REJECTED" BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT AND PARTY TIES, AND THAT IT EMBODIES A GENUINE TRADE UNION SPIRIT, ESPECIALLY AT THE LOCAL AND SECTORAL LEVELS.

(C) SO. AFRICA. WCL AFFILIATES WILL JOIN THE  
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ICFTU-LED WEEK OF SOLIDARITY FOR SOUTH AFRICAN WORKERS THAT BEGINS JAN. 17, BUT THEIR PROTESTS WILL NOT INCLUDE ANY SYMPATHY STRIKES OR SLOWDOWNS.

(D) RELATIONS WITH ICFTU. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE WCL AND THE ICFTU HAVE NOTICEABLY COOLED SINCE THE WCL IN NOVEMBER UNQUOTEVOCALLY TOLD THE ICFTU A MERGER WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION. "OUR INTENTION IS NOT TO BREAK RELATIONS," SAID KULAKOWSKI, ADDING THAT HE HAS BEEN TRYING TO GET AN APPOINTMENT WITH ICFTU GENERAL SECRETARY KERSTEN.

(E) PAN-EUROPEAN LABOR MEETING. THE WCL SECRETARIAT WILL NOT ATTEND THE EAST--WEST "LABOR" MEETING THAT WILL BE HELD IN GENEVA EARLY IN MARCH, BUT KULAKOWSKI WILL MEET WITH WCL-AFFILIATED PARTICIPANTS IN ADVANCE, PROBABLY MARCH 3. HINTON

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